

F. T. HICKFORD MEMORIAL.

Unveiling Ceremony.

There was an attendance of about 1 000 Freemasons at the unveiling in the Melbourne General Cemetery yesterday afternoon of a memorial to the late Mr. F. T. Hickford, who for many years was a leading member of the craft. M. Wor. Bro. W. P. Bice, Pro Grand Master, delivered the introductory address, and at a later stage he unveiled and dedicated the memorial. He spoke in high praise of Mr. Hickford's Masonic activities. He was a great patriot, and for some time he was president of the Royal Society of St. George. Instances of his public spirit were mentioned in association with the Fire Brigades Board, and with municipal affairs at Brunswick, where he became mayor.

Canon Baglin, in the oration, told of Mr. Hickford's association with the craft for 35 years. As Grand Master he moved about among his brethren in a democratic spirit, and endeared himself to all. Canon Baglin recalled Mr. Hickford's candidature for Parliament, and said that he refused to sacrifice his fiscal principles for ambition. He recalled episodes of Mr. Hickford's Masonic career as Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Master, and as Pro Grand Master under the Earl of Strathmore.

The Grand Lodge Chant sang "Abide With Me," in which those present joined, and "The Long Day Closes."